

Dear Town Meeting Member:

We are writing to express our concern about warrant article 24. We believe that your decision regarding this warrant may be one of the most important votes in recent years, given that the consequences will persist for thirty years. Because of the significant ramifications of this warrant, we feel obligated as citizens of Amherst to voice the following concerns for your consideration:

- There are serious concerns regarding the safety of the landfill.
- There is already a disturbing level of contamination leaching from the landfill into the surrounding wetlands and conservation areas.
- Numerous documents from the Department of Environmental Protection state that the site is fragile.
- If further repairs are needed to keep the site safe once the project is complete the cost to the town could be huge.

We are a town that has always considered issues in a thoughtful and thorough way, whether it is chickens, the Gateway Project, or the flag. Why are we rushing into an unprecedented thirty-year project in less than three months? We understand that tax incentives for the companies involved make the arrangement financially profitable. They have a right to pursue profits. However, *the long-term gains rest with them, not with us.*

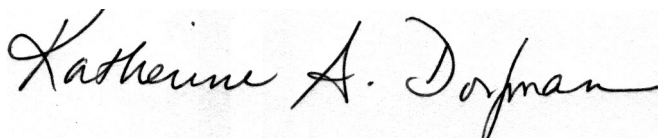
What you can do:

- Consider delaying Article 24 until the project can be thoroughly vetted.
- Support amendments to Article 24 that ensure the project will be constructed in an environmentally safe and fiscally prudent manner.
- Encourage town leaders to identify locations for solar projects that do not bear environmental risks.

This is about responsible solar. For Amherst's future it is essential that we move towards green energy. If this is our goal, we also have an obligation to manage and attend to the environmental legacy that we have inherited. If we ignore it, we are negating the good we are trying to accomplish and abandoning our role as guardians of the earth.

We appreciate your consideration of these very important issues. We are happy to discuss our concerns further and encourage you to visit our website, where we have documentation that supports our concerns. Our website is: [www.acresgroup.org](http://www.acresgroup.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine A. Dorfman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

for the members of Amherst Citizens for Responsible Solar